

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A connector having a housing (20) with at least one cavity (26) for receiving at least one terminal fitting (10), a resiliently displaceable lock (30) provided on an inner wall of the cavity (26), the lock (30) being configured for being resiliently displaced by the terminal fitting (10) during insertion of the terminal fitting (10) into the cavity (26) along an inserting direction (ID), the lock (30) resiliently returning when the terminal fitting (10) is inserted a specified distance into the cavity (26) so that a locking surface (32) of the lock (30) engages an engaging portion (16A) of the terminal fitting (10) for locking the terminal fitting (10) so as not to come out, the locking surface (32) of the lock (30) being slanted to form an obtuse angle (α) with respect to the inserting direction (ID).

2. The connector of claim 1, comprising a retainer (50) for entering a deformation space (36) for the lock (30) to prevent the resilient displacement of the lock (30).

3. The connector of claim 2, wherein the retainer (50) includes at least one pushing portion (60) for engaging the lock (30) to displace the lock (30) towards the terminal fitting (10) upon entering the deformation space (36).

4. The connector of claim 3, further comprising means (42, 57; 45, 59) for holding the retainer (50) at a first position where the retainer (50) is retracted from the deformation space (36) to permit the resilient displacement of the locking (30) and at a second position where the retainer (50) is located in the deformation space (36).

5. The connector of claim 1, wherein an angle of inclination (α) of the locking surface (32) of the lock (30) is set such that a trace of displacement (X) of an end of the locking surface (32) closer to the terminal fitting (10) is more distanced than the engaging portion (16A) of the terminal fitting (10) so as not to interfere with the engaging portion (16A) of the terminal fitting (10) when the lock (30) is displaced toward the deformation space (36) from a position where the lock (30) is engaged with the terminal fitting (10) with the terminal fitting (10) held substantially in contact with a front wall (27) of the cavity (26).

6. The connector of claim 1, wherein the lock (30) comprises a disengagement operable portion (34) for engaging a disengagement jig (J) inserted into the housing (10).

7. The connector of claim 6, wherein the disengagement operable portion (34) is inclined with respect to the inserting direction (ID) and has a greater angle of inclination than the angle of inclination (α) of the locking surface (32).